

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179405
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PRS-01 INR-07 /019 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 179405

STADIS////////////////////////////////////
FROM NEA/ARN, DRAPER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, SY, US

SUBJECT: SYRIAN JEWRY

1. WITH NICK LUDDINGTON'S AP STORY BREAKING--IT WAS
PRINTED IN JULY 30 WASHINGTON POST--SOLARZ, SHALOM AND
OTHERS HAVE BEEN DELUGED WITH INQUIRIES. SOLARZ TELEPHONED
NUMEROUS TIMES TO SEEK GUIDANCE. HE FELT HE HAD TO SAY
SOMETHING. I SAID BASICALLY THAT, IF COMMENT COULD NOT BE
RESISTED, I HOPE THAT THE EMPHASIS ON THE U.S. ROLE WOULD
BE ON THE PART PLAYED BY THE SYRIAN JEWISH COMMUNITY IN
THE NEW YORK CITY AREA.

2. SOLARZ LATER GAVE A SHORT INTERVIEW TO NEWSDAY BUT
LATER SUBMITTED TO A LONG INTERVIEW BY NEW YORK TIMES
CORRESPONDENT BERNIE GWERTZMAN. BERNIE ALREADY HAS
CONSIDERABLE BACKGROUND AND HIS STORY WILL PROBABLY PLAY
THE SUNDAY EDITIONS.

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3. WE HAVE BEEN STONE-WALLING THE PRESS UP TO NOW. NO
INQUIRIES HAVE BEEN MADE OF THE PRESS SPOKESMAN, AND HE
WAS UNDER GUIDANCE TO SAY NOTHING AND TO TAKE NO QUESTIONS.
WE UILL PROBABLY HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING ON MONDAY. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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